



January 22, 2020

3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Santa Ynez Valley Marriott • 555 McMurray Rd. • Buellton, CA 93427

MINUTES

Attendance: Paige Batson, Lisa Brabo, Chris Donati, Samuel Duarte, Lauren Ferguson, Alma Hernandez, Cheri Jasinski, Vicki Johnson, Mary Beth Lepkowsky, joyce ellen lippman, Patricia Low, Marco Quintanar, Angie Rodriguez, DeAnn Rosenberry, Marc Sabin, Lisa Valencia Sherratt, Sarah Slikker, Margaret Weiss, Jeanne West, Megan Young

Special Guests: Wendy Hudson, City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department; Barbara Wiley, City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks Department;

Staff: Barbara Finch and Gloria Munoz

1. Welcome & Introductions

• Weaving Connections

Barbara Finch opened the meeting and introductions were made. Barbara asked the members to break into triads and discuss the following: What do you think is the most important thing to tell the Board of Supervisors (BOS) about older adults and people with disabilities? It could be professional or personal. Folks would like the BOS to be aware of:

- The magnitude, depth, breadth, and consequences of not dealing with senior issues. Perhaps they can help expose the problems to the community so that they can be more informed and more likely to support solutions.
- The complexity of senior needs and the individuality of each senior
- We need to act now in order to help our seniors age in place
- Housing issues related to seniors in our community
 - Offer creative solutions – dementia towns (Amsterdam, San Diego), pairing a college student with a senior, etc.
- Individuals sometimes don't have connections or funding when they are in crisis. It is up to the community to be able to take care of one another. It is important that they have messaging of creating generational spaces so that folks aren't isolated in communities.
- Issues not being exclusive to age. Certain agencies are not prepared or ready to deal with folks aging. We need to be better prepared and educated to deal with all the other issues that are going on while people age.

2. Approve Minutes, November 20, 2019

Cheri Jasinski motioned to approve the minutes from November 20, 2019 and Chris Donati seconded the motion. Vicki Johnson abstained from voting; all others voted in favor and the minutes were approved.

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

4. AAN Regional Coalition Updates

Jennifer Griffin was unable to attend the AAN meeting. Barbara shared the following announcement on her behalf:

The Adult & Aging Network and the Independent Living Resource Center, Inc. were selected again to receive a 2-year grant from the SCAN Foundation to support the work around the Master Plan for Aging. The scope of work includes:

- 2 AAN members to participate in Advocacy Day in Spring 2020 and in the fall of 2021
- Attend the 2020 and 2021 TSF Master Plan for Aging Forum
- Participate on the Advocacy Day Planning Committee
- Identify three (3) strategies in the Greater Good Studio's (GGS) Report "Elevating Voices" under Physical Environment, Supportive Services, and Social and Emotional Well-Being to advance locally.
- Identify two (2) CA State Assembly and two (2) CA State Senate District Offices covered by your Coalition that need to be engaged on the GGS work and Master Plan for Aging.
- Build on previous "Farm Team" efforts. Identify local stakeholders that need to be engaged on the Master Plan for Aging.
- Organize annual educational opportunities for the identified (2.3) Farm Team members on the Greater Good Studios Report and the Master Plan for Aging
- Schedule and attend annual in-person, in-district meetings with the identified Assembly Members and Senators and/or their staff to discuss the selected (2.1) GGS strategies and Master Plan for Aging.
- Host CA Master Plan for Aging Event in 2021

Cheri encouraged folks to share their voice on California's Master Plan for Aging:

<https://www.engageca.org/> Folks can also send suggestions to the offices of Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson, Assembly Member Limón, and the Board of Supervisors. The Long-Term Care Subcommittee will issue a report to the Governor by March 2020 on stabilizing state long-term care programs and infrastructure. The full Master Plan will be completed by October 2020. There are community events going on throughout the state and a session is being planned for the Golden Inn & Village. Cheri added that the Senator is looking for areas of expertise and people from communities that may not be adequately represented. She is also looking at having a local event with the county. Barbara added that Engage CA has Webinar Wednesdays - an informative and interactive series of webinars addressing a variety of aging-related topics that will inform the development of the Master Plan for Aging. The next topic is "Housing" and it will be on January 29th from 9:30am to 11am.

5. Census 2020

Joyce Ellen Lippman and Lisa Brabo gave an overview of Census 2020 and what to expect for Santa Barbara County. Every 10 years there is a nationwide count of every person living in the United States and the next census will be held on April 1, 2020. Census results affect our voice in government, how much funding our community receives and how our community plans for the future. Most households will receive an invitation to participate in the census during March 12 – 20 and some communities will receive a paper questionnaire. A reminder letter will then be sent out in the mail between March 12 – 24. National Census Day is April 1st and everyone in the United States will be encouraged to respond by this date. During March 26-April 3 they will send a reminder postcard and during April 3-5 they will send a reminder letter. Lisa stated that if folks do not respond online they will receive a census via mail. If the hardcopy is not received back, census workers will go to the households to try to assist with filling out the census.

The census can be completed online, over the phone, by requesting a paper form, or by visiting an official Questionnaire Assistance Center and Kiosk (available March to June 2020). The postcards will also have a QR code that will take you to the census. Every house in the neighborhood needs to fill out one census, even if there are multiple families because it counts people by address. Lisa added that we can answer questions about the census but cannot provide answers for people completing the forms. Only those with a valid Census Bureau ID are allowed to go to a person's home. They will never ask for payment, social security number or financial information. The questionnaire will not include questions about an individual's citizenship status. By law, personal information must be protected and kept confidential. Joyce Ellen stated that they developed an outreach plan for older adults. They will focus on those who are 75+ years old who may not think that they want to fill out the form. Currently, they are going to mobile home parks, plan to go to the public funded senior housing apartments and are developing place mats that will be given to the senior nutrition program. They will have outreach materials available that talk about scams. For more information or to schedule a presentation, contact Joyce Ellen or Lisa.

6. City of Santa Maria Parks & Rec

- **Active Aging Committee / Senior Programs**
- **Dementia Friendly Mobile Unit – Santa Maria**

Barbara Wiley and Wendy Hudson, from the City of Santa Maria Recreation and Parks, gave an overview of the Active Aging Committee. The Active Aging Committee is a group of volunteers and agencies in the Santa Maria Valley who promote the benefits of leading an active, healthy lifestyle. They are based in the Elwin Mussell Senior Center and it serves 50 and above. They meet every other month and their main project every year is to promote Active Aging Week, which is during the last part of September and the first part of October. This year Active Aging Week is September 26th to October 3rd. They hope that through their involvement with AAN that folks will want to get involved with them and be a part of Active Aging Week this year. Last year, they had 27 events during Active Aging Week. The International Council on Active Aging recently gave them an award for the Spirit of Active Aging Week. The money that came with it will help them with this year's event.

In addition, they were connected with the Dementia Live experience and they were able to go to Thousand Oaks to experience it last week. The tour is designed to help people understand what those suffering from memory loss are experiencing. They now plan to host it in Santa Maria for two days. They are still figuring out dates. They have learned that six people can go through at a time so they want to make sure that they are able to get as many people through as possible. Wendy shared how taking the dementia tour made her feel. It was eye opening and she encourages everyone to do it. AAN plans to bring the Virtual Dementia Tour to every part of the County and have it be designed by whoever is in that community. She also plans to talk to the Latino Elder Outreach Network because this would be a great focus for South County. Wendy added that there is a pre and post survey. They want folks to be in a good space before they commit to the experience. She felt that they were well cared for through all the steps. The plan is have one whole day for first responders and perhaps partner with Allan Hancock. The second day would be for caregivers, family members and professionals.

Barbara Finch added that they will rely on us to provide volunteers to help with the process. The cost is \$1,000 plus gas and travel costs. Barbara and Wendy will let us know as soon as dates and times are finalized.

7. Member Updates & Announcements

- **Jeanne West** had the following announcements:
 - The Parkinson Association of Santa Barbara is launching an exercise class and a support group for care partners for the Latino population. The class will be in Spanish beginning February 14th at the Shoreline Community Church on Friday's from 1-2pm.
 - Jeanne will send a Save-the-Date for the Parkinson's Association Annual Symposium on April 18th. It will be at the Hilton and tickets will be \$30/ticket.
 - Hospice of Santa Barbara's Learn @ Lunch Series 2020 will be on the topic "Death and Dying from Different Religious Perspectives" and they will be hosting eight sessions. The first session will be on January 17th.
- **Barbara Finch** asked folks to contact her if they want to participate in creating an event around the Master Plan for Aging.

8. Adjourn – Next meeting March 25, 2020

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Gloria Munoz